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NO. 102

IEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Brief Local Paragraphs of More or Less Interest.

PICKED UP BY ENQUIRER REPORTERS

Stories Concerning Folks and Things, Some of Which You Know and Some You Don't Know—Condensed For Quick Reading.

Four Still Live.

"Death last Sunday of Mr. J. N. McDill at his home at Hickory Grove, removes one of five well known citizens of western York county who were born the same year," remarked one who is familiar with the facts. "Messrs. W. T. Hartness, John L. Rainey, J. M. Sims and Miss Eliza Bigham of Sharon and Mr. McDill of Hickory Grove, were all born the same year—1844. Mr. McDill was a great friend of the three remaining men of the quintette. All of them served in the War Between the States and while they were not all in the same regiment they were thrown together quite a great deal during the great struggle."

Lord of Creation.

A friend sent an editor, as a Christmas present, a bronze paper weight in the form of a mouse, bearing this unique inscription: The Lord of Creation you see in this brass.

No? Man, you maintain, is the head. Yet, who rules o'er man? It is woman, I guess.

And a mouse fills a woman with dread. So it thus becomes clear, as the mud in the street,

And it's granted in each advanced nation; The mouse, being the boss of the boss of the boss,

Must be easily the head of Creation. This from an unknown author is wholesome reading on the threshold of the New Year:

Let us be better men!
Let us find things to do
Sane and sweeter than any yet,
Higher and nobler and true!

Let us be better men!
Let us begin again,
Trying all over the best we know
To climb and develop and grow.

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spite of the fact that there was really no enforceable penalty for non-payment. If people had refused to pay they could not have been punished. "But the law has teeth in it now. Failure to pay is a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment, with one-half the fine going to the informer. "I suppose that is all right for some of the counties; but the experience of last year showed that it was not necessary for York county. York county people are generally disposed to obey the law."

Squirrels In Rock Hill.
It is not an unusual thing to see grey squirrels disporting themselves about the town of Rock Hill, sometimes on the sidewalks of the streets, and again in the trees in some of the yards. They are a pleasant sight both for children and for adults, and strangers often express surprise at the tameness of the little animals.
Noticing several squirrels in the trees of Dr. W. W. Fennell's yard one day recently, I asked the doctor about them.
Dr. Fennell was all interest at once. He pointed out a nest that he said is inhabited and also he took the trouble to find a number of squirrels running about in Confederate Park, adjoining his premises.
"Why, certainly I know where they came from. I turned loose several pairs here in my yard some years ago and all the squirrels you see scattered about came from them."
"It was a lot of trouble at first to get the small boys to let them alone with their sling shots and parlor rifles. They killed quite a number of them; but they have quit that now. The little animals are seldom interfered with any more."

On being invited inside I followed the doctor to his dining room, where he began knocking on a window. Presently a half dozen squirrels came scurrying to the foot of a tree outside, and the doctor threw out some peanuts.
"Mrs. Fennell taught them that," said the doctor. "She feeds them peanuts every day and they don't fail to come when she calls."

Shindooley's Troubles.
Well known around Yorkville is "Shindooley," a gangly, awkward, brown-skinned young negro, amiable and accommodating. He was telling Views and Interviews his experiences at a colored dance in Chester Christmas day, as he was shining shoes in the American Legion club the other day. "Folks," said he, "Ah is come to the conclusion dat Ah is not gwine to atten' any ob dese out-of-town dances among de niggahs no moah. Ah picks mahself up Christmas day an' went down to Chestah fo' er niggah dance on Columbia street. Well, eberyting went erlong all right fo' er while until one ob de niggahs got mad at eranother niggah what he say wuz tryin' fo' ter take his gal. Ah looks eround an' see dat niggah snap er pistol at de udder one. Den Ah spreads mahself out an' dives behind de piano since Ah believes in safety fust. Well, suh, Ah hadn't got good spread out behind dat piano fo' er nother niggah, he tries fo' to git back dere wid me. Ah didn't hab no pistol er razor er knife er nuthin. Ah didn't know whether dat niggah wuz after me er whether he were jest tryin' to git out ob de danger zone lak me. He didn't say nothin' an' Ah didn't neither. Ah made er dive out fum behind dere an' out de door. Den Ah made a pass fo' er niggah hotel an' paid er quarter fo' er mess ob sleep. An' Ah come home on 'Bob' Tuesday mawnin'; and heah Ah is still all together. Cose I could er got in dat rucus, Ah reckon. Dat is, Ah could hab joined in de shere 'nough fracas; but mah spirit was full ob peace on earth an' good will to menses. But Ah notice dat ebery time Ah goes out ob town to er dance, dere is a rucus. An' hereafter Ah is resolved to stay at home where Ah kin hold mah own wid dese niggahs."

TO ORGANIZE CHURCH.

Twenty-eight A. R. P.'s at Blacksburg to Perfect Organization There.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)
Blacksburg, Dec. 29.—Plans for the organization of an Associate Reformed Presbyterian church here are under way. It was expected that the organization would be perfected last Sunday under the direction of Rev. E. B. Hunter of Sharon and Rev. B. G. Pressly of Hickory Grove. However, the organization meeting was called off because of the death of one of the members of Rev. Pressly's congregation at Hickory Grove.
It is understood that there are twenty-eight members of the A. R. P. denomination living in Blacksburg, who have signified their intention of uniting with the church to be organized here and they are anxious to complete an organization as soon as possible.
The congregations of the other churches in Blacksburg have tendered the Associate Reformed Presbyterians the use of their respective churches for the holding of worship, until the Seceders are in position to build a house of worship of their own.

—The penitentiary board bill of David Brannon, the Orangeburg negro who has been lost for four years awaiting the execution of a death sentence amounts to \$1,200. The penitentiary authorities will present the bill to Orangeburg county. Brannon was pardoned by the governor on petition of the jury that had convicted him.

THE STORY OF SHARON

How Thriving Western York County Town Came Into Being.

SIDELIGHTS ON ITS HISTORY

Railroad Officials Once Became Angry And Moved Depot Away—First School House is Now Being Used as a Building in Which to Manufacture Ice—First Policeman Let Prisoner Get Away—No Brick Buildings Until 1909—How Mrs. Kennedy Kept Liquor Out of Town—Record of Thirty-four Years.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)

Sharon, Dec. 29.—Thirty-four years ago, what is now the thriving town of Sharon wasn't even a wide place in the road. The site of this town was covered over with virgin forest and thick underbrush, a haven for rabbits and partridges and other wild game. In all probability the topography of the country would be like that now had it not been for the coming of the Charleston, Cincinnati and Chicago railroad (now the Marion and Kingville division of the Southern) through the forest land that was then Sharon. True, Sharon Associate Reformed Presbyterian church had been organized since the summer of 1796 and before the railroad nosed its way through, there was a little old one-room log school house near here. But that was all.
When the railroad authorities planted an old worn out second class coach on a knoll near where the present station stands and the agent announced that he was ready to sell tickets and ship freight, people began to conceive the idea of building a town here and as a result of that conception Sharon started. That was in 1888. John Ross, now a resident of Arkansas, was about the first settler in Sharon and soon after came the Messrs. Plexico. John L. Rainey, grand old man of western York, now in his 79th year, owned practically all of the land on which the town of Sharon was built and is building. He perhaps did more to encourage the building of a town here than any other one man. It was he who gave the railroad the right of way. It was he who gave the site for a depot. It was he who sold lots for a song in order to encourage settlers and business. And his interest in the town today is just as keen as it was thirty-four years ago when the axes of the woodsmen started biting deeply into the mighty trees in order that the ground they occupied might be available for building sites. Not quite all of the territory that is now incorporated in Sharon belonged to Mr. Rainey. The eastern section of the town was originally the property of Misses Mary and Eliza Gillen, now dead. From them it passed to their heirs although a part of it has been sold to other parties in the intervening years.

First Store House.

The first store house was built by John L. Rainey and was occupied by the firm of Lowry, Starr and Ross, the firm members being Messrs. James Ross, James M. Starr and Sid Lowry. They did a general merchandise business and they did well from the start. It is said. Sharon people familiar with the early history of the town tell an amusing incident in connection with the building of the first store house. The railroad track had not been completed through Sharon when Mr. Rainey commenced the erection of the store. Major John F. Jones, now Collector of Internal revenue for South Carolina was superintendent of the old "Three C's" road. Coming down to Sharon one day to look after the railroad construction work, Major Jones noticed the store going up in the woods and wanted to know about it—what it was and so on. "I am building a store," Mr. Rainey is said to have replied to a question.
"Well," returned Major Jones, "all I have got to say is you are mighty damn previous."

But as subsequent developments have proven, Mr. Rainey was not visionary in building the first store here and was not too "previous" either, since many other stores have gone up in the years that have passed. One of those stores, that occupied by Hill & Company, and completed by Mr. W. L. Hill in 1913, is said to be the largest store building under a single roof in all of South Carolina. People traveling in coaches on the "Three C's" on the Southern railway, are always attracted by the handsome three-story brick store room at the eastern entrance into Sharon. The bustling little town of less than 500 people is known in many states as the South Carolina town having the largest store building in the state.

First Hotel.

best in food and lodging and genuine southern hospitality. The only hotel in the town now is that conducted by Mrs. J. D. Gwin who has been in the business many years and who has long enjoyed a reputation for setting a fine table and giving exceptional service generally to her patrons.

The First Mayor.

The late W. L. Plexico was the first mayor, or intend of Sharon. Old residents tell an amusing story in connection with the first municipal election. Mr. Plexico was opposed by his brother Sam Plexico. There were no issues, but the few settlers realizing that it was quite the thing to have a contest in any old election, developed a pretty warm campaign. It is not of record that there were any stump speeches or bonfires or fist fights in connection with the election, but during the campaign considerable heat was developed. About thirty votes were cast in the first election. Negroes as well as whites voted, the white voters seeing to it that their negro servants voted the same way they did. According to Dr. J. H. Saye, who was one of the commissioners of election, it was several days before the result was declared. Finally W. L. Plexico was declared elected mayor by a majority of one. Many municipal elections have been held since that time and there have been many contests; but never since has there been a more heated campaign than that first one between the Plexico brothers.

Graves First Policeman.

Mayor Plexico appointed the late John Graves, one of the first settlers, as the police force. He was chief and ferce and everything and he was a good one, too. They tell a story on Chief Graves that on one occasion he was called upon to arrest a negro who was acting in a disorderly manner. When placed under arrest the negro refused to go to the village lock-up. He simply lay down on the ground and because he was very heavy, Chief Graves was unable to drag him.

Gazing at the obstreperous prisoner in a disgusted manner, Graves said: "Nigger, you just wait there until I go home and get my tricks." And leaving the prisoner on the ground the policeman started for his residence.

What the "tricks" referred to were, nobody seems to know unless Mr. Graves had reference to handcuffs or twisting chain that he wanted.

Anyway, by the time he had gotten back to the spot with his "tricks," the prisoner had beaten a retreat for parts unknown.

Liquor Selling Forbidden.

The town of Sharon was chartered by legislative enactment in 1889. There were some who thought that the sale of whisky should be allowed and it was the original intention to include in the charter the right to conduct bar rooms or licensed saloons. There were many railroad workers building the track who wanted their liquor and their beer; and it appeared certain for awhile that the charter would include liquor privileges. There was much discussion about the matter, numbers of people taking the position that it would be better not to incorporate at all if Sharon was to be a location for rum sellers. Finally Mrs. Eliza Kennedy, long since gone to her reward, circulated a petition which requested that the town charter be made "bone dry" and that the legal sale of whisky in Sharon forever be prohibited. This good Christian woman met with considerable opposition at first in her efforts. But her patience and persistence finally prevailed and the result was that a "bone dry" charter was issued. During her life time Mrs. Kennedy exercised a powerful influence for good in Sharon and the community and the influence of her good works are to be seen in many quarters until this day. She was the mother of P. B. C. L. and Sam Kennedy, all of them prominent and influential citizens of Sharon.

The Depot.

Older residents recall some interesting stories in connection with the railroad and the depot. In the early days the railroad authorities and the people had their squabbles in plenty. In 1887 the people of Broad River township voted to issue bonds for the support of the railroad. The amount of the issue was \$24,000 but the county commissioners Messrs. Gib Cup, Robert Whitesides and Will Ross refused to levy the tax and pay interest on the bonds on the ground that \$24,000 was more than 8 per cent of the assessed property valuation of Broad River township, the constitution holding bond issues to 8 per cent. There was a long and hard fight about the bonds and more or less bitterness and considerable bluffing on the part of the railroad people. Commissioner Will Ross, who lived in this section, could not be induced to sign the bonds by any means. In order to bluff him into signing, the railroad officials threatened to move the depot away from Sharon. In fact, they did move the second class coach which was serving as a station.

In the spring of 1889 Superintendent Jones sent a freight train down from Blacksburg and loaded the depot and carried it back to Blacksburg. Dr. Saye told the correspondent an interesting incident the other day about the carrying off of the depot.
The first station agent at Sharon was Frank Moore, now dead. Moore had a pet crow which was just as black as a crow could be. The morning that the depot was hoisted on the

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COMING AND GOING

Natives of York County Come Home For Christmas as Usual.

ROAD TRAFFIC HAS BEEN HEAVY

Record of the Movements of Lots of Folks You Know and Lots of Folks You Don't Know—Yuletide Season is Time for Many Home Coming Celebrations and Movements This Year Are As Numerous as Ever.

Christmas time generally means home-coming time among the people of York county and this year is no exception to the rule. Hundreds of natives of York county have come back to the parental roofs and other former residences during the past few days to spend the holidays. On the other hand, many residents of the county have taken advantage of the holiday season to visit relatives and friends elsewhere. According to the railroad authorities, the holiday traffic this year has been fully as great as usual and perhaps greater than usual. The muddy roads have been alive with automobiles as is generally the case at Christmas time. While of course it is impossible to get a complete record of all comers and goers, several reporters for The Yorkville Enquirer have been especially vigilant this year seeking the names of visitors and the names of the places from whence they came. Here are some of them:

Mrs. Charles Wilson of Gastonia, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Miller and other relatives in and near Yorkville this week.

Mrs. Margaret Garvin of Paxville, S. C., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Ferguson at Sharon.

Clarence Borders of Blacksburg, visited Mr. and Mrs. John W. Miller in Yorkville, Tuesday.

Mr. B. R. T. Bowen, who has been quite sick at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Walter W. Love, in Yorkville, for several days past, shows some improvement.

Mr. N. J. N. Bowen of Yorkville, is out again after a severe attack of influenza.

D. E. Finley and Robert Finley of Washington; John Finley of the United States Naval academy, Annapolis, Md., States R. Finley of Massillon, O., and Miss Margaret Finley of Winthrop college, spent the Christmas holidays with Mrs. D. E. Finley and other relatives in Yorkville.

William H. McCorkle of Anderson, is spending the Christmas holidays with his father, Coroner Paul G. McCorkle, in Yorkville.

John Carroll, William Darby Glenn, John Moore Sandifer and Joseph Wardlaw of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, are visiting their parents in Yorkville.

A. Knox Quinn of Newbern, N. C., and Thos. W. Quinn of Winsto-Salem, N. C., visited Mr. and Mrs. John Warren Quinn in Yorkville, this week.

Miss Nellie Moore, teacher in the schools at Branchville, is spending the holidays with the family of her father, Mr. W. T. Moore, in Yorkville.

Lewis M. Grist of Yorkville, is spending the holidays with friends in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Messrs. Howard and Coke Hatchett of Spartanburg, spent Sunday with the family of Mr. W. D. Grist in Yorkville. Mr. Albert M. Grist of Yorkville, was a visitor in Atlanta, Ga., last week.

byterian college, Clinton, is with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Laws, in Yorkville for the holidays.

Mr. Newton Neil is very ill at his home on York No. 5.

Henry McGill, a student at Erskine college, Due West, is with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. McGill, on York No. 1, for the holidays.

Dr. and Mrs. McCain Nichols of Rock Hill, spent the Christmas holidays with relatives in Kentucky.

Miss James Gettys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Gettys of York No. 4, who has been very ill for several days past, is improving.

Miss Ellen Feemster of Rock Hill, spent the Christmas holidays with the family of her father, Mr. James Feemster, on York No. 4.

Messrs. W. W. Stanton and T. C. Barnett of Bethel township, were among the visitors in Yorkville, Tuesday.

Mr. R. A. Barnett of Rock Hill, was a visitor in Yorkville last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Adickes of Greenville, recently visited relatives and friends in Yorkville.

S. Earle Grist of Yorkville, was a visitor in Bennettsville this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Latimer and children, and Mrs. W. C. Latimer of Yorkville, spent the Christmas holidays with relatives in Atlanta, Ga.

Thos. C. O'Farrell of Yorkville, visited the family of his father, Mr. J. N. O'Farrell in Atlanta, Ga., last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Grist of Columbia, recently visited the family of Mr. H. E. Neil in Yorkville.

Miss Nina Grist of Asheville, N. C., visited Misses Margaret and Norma Grist in Yorkville last Tuesday. She was en route to Charleston on a visit to friends.

Play Plexico, a student at Clemson college, as with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Plexico of York No. 4, for the Christmas holidays.

Otis Boyd, who has been critically ill at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. P. Boyd on York No. 7, suffering with pneumonia, is convalescing. The young man's life was despaired of last week.

Messrs. John A. Jenkins of New Orleans and L. W. Jenkins of Spartanburg, visited the family of Mr. W. W. Jenkins in Yorkville, during the holidays.

W. W. Boyd of York No. 8, was among the visitors in Yorkville last Wednesday.

Dr. and Mrs. R. Glenn Allison of Minneapolis, Minn., visited relatives in Yorkville this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Tiller of Mayesville, S. C., are visiting the family of Mr. J. Q. Wray in Yorkville.

Messames Ross Hambright and James Hardin of Grover, N. C., visited relatives at Sharon this week.

Miss Beulah Ferguson of Clemson college, is with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ferguson, in Yorkville, for the Christmas season.

Miss Belva L. Saunders of Asheville, N. C., visited her sister, Miss Ada Saunders, in Yorkville, this week.

Mr. John A. Neely and family of Anderson, visited Mrs. H. A. D. Neely and Mr. Arthur Neely in Yorkville, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Bedford Moore and children of Columbia, visited relatives in Yorkville this week.

John Lewis, student at the South Carolina Medical college, Charleston, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Lewis, in Yorkville.

Robert Turner Allison of Baltimore, Md., is with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Allison, in Yorkville.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. B. Jenkins, Jr., and children of Yorkville, visited relatives at Grover, N. C., this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Dent of Columbia, and Paul Callahan of Greensboro, N. C., spent a part of the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McGee in Yorkville.

A. M. Inman of Greensboro, N. C., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Inman, in Yorkville.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Miller and son, Lowry Miller, of Gastonia, visited relatives in Yorkville this week.

Jerome Murph of New York, visited J. H. Hood at Hickory Grove, this week.

J. H. Hood of Hickory Grove, was a visitor in Yorkville Wednesday.

Miss Norma Grist of Yorkville, is visiting the family of Mr. J. S. Riddle and other relatives on Clover No. 2.

COMMUNITY HOUSE OPENED

Hawthorn Mill Band of Clover Makes Its First Public Appearance.

INTERESTING EXERCISES WERE HELD

Barrett Soon to Tender His Resignation as Postmaster—Road from Bridge to Clover is in Bad Shape—Baptists Getting Ready for Big Revival—Other News Notes of Metropolitan of Northern York County.

Clover, Dec. 29.—With a large audience of interested people in attendance, the Hawthorn-Hampshire community building at Clover, was formally opened last Friday evening. An interesting programme had been prepared for the occasion and a delightful luncheon was served the numerous invited guests. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. S. H. Booth, pastor of Clover circuit. Short talks were made by Revs. W. P. Grier and N. A. Hemrick.

The opening of the community building marked the first public appearance of the recently organized Hawthorn Mill band of which V. Q. Hambright is capt. The band gave a delightful concert, worthy of a much older and more experienced organization. During the evening W. B. Rudisill, a member of the band expressed the appreciation of the band members to the Hawthorn Mill management for their generosity in providing the members with band instruments. A box of choice cigars was presented to Prof. R. J. Herndon, teacher of the band in appreciation of his services in that capacity. The presentation speech was made by Ralph Webber.

Jr. R. Hart, Esq., of Yorkville, attorney for the Hawthorn and Hampshire Mills made a short talk. Dr. D. W. Daniels, well known humorist and orator of Clemson College found at the last moment that he would be unable to be present. However, the talks of the other speakers scintillated with wit and humor and Dr. Daniels was not missed.

To Tender Resignation.
James A. Barrett will tender his resignation as postmaster at Clover within a few days. Mr. Barrett was recently elected assistant director or superintendent of Sunday School work for the Upper South Carolina conference of the Methodist church. He will probably make his headquarters in Spartanburg. "Jim" Barrett as he is popularly known, has long been a leader in religious, fraternal and civic affairs in Clover and he has many friends and acquaintances throughout this section who regret that his new duties will take him elsewhere.

Announcement that Mr. Barrett had accepted the position in Sunday school work and would resign the postmastership here was made known to the people of this section through the Yorkville Enquirer several days ago. It is understood that there are already several candidates for the position and the probability is that the woods will be full of them within a very short time.

Road in Bad Shape.
Rough weather and heavy Christmas traffic during the past few days has put the Yorkville-Clover road in bad shape from Allison Creek trestle to Clover. Supervisor A. J. Parrott of the state highway commission has been trying to improve it but because of the inclement weather has so far been unable to get it in the shape that he would like. A few days of sunshine would work wonders, it is believed.

Christmas Tree Celebrations.
Christmas tree celebrations were held at the Methodist and Baptist churches here last Saturday evening, the entertainments at each place being held under Sunday School auspices. There were presents for practically every Sunday school member and a joyous time for all.

Revival at First Baptist.
The congregation of the First Baptist church of Clover, Rev. N. A. Hemrick, pastor, is looking forward with much interest to a series of revival services to be held in that church beginning the first Sunday in January. The revival is to be conducted by Rev. Sam Danner of Orangeburg, who is well known throughout the state for his evangelistic success. Rev. Danner was for about ten years a member of the Methodist conference, later joining the Baptist church. Holding a revival meeting in January is a rather novel departure for this section; but it is believed that such a revival at this time will prove well worth while. The services are to continue for about ten days.

Personal Mention.
C. E. Gann of Columbia, visited Rev. and Mrs. N. A. Hemrick in Clover this week.

Messrs. S. J. and T. P. Clinton of Clover, were visitors in Yorkville last Wednesday.

Chief of Police John A. Jackson was a visitor in Yorkville, Wednesday.

In addition to a prison sentence for speeders, a Detroit municipal judge has the victors taken through the children's ward of Receiving Hospital that they may see at close hand what suffering the speed craze has wrought. The judge also promises to take the speeders to the county morgue, there to view those who have been killed by reckless drivers.

(Continued on Page Two.)